

*In video diaries from Iraq, Braley discusses contributions of Iowa soldiers and personnel from Rock Island Arsenal*

**Washington, DC** - Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) toured the Rockwell Collins facility in Manchester today to discuss the work Iowa's citizens are doing every day to ensure America's troops have the safest equipment available. Workers at the plant specialize in ruggedizing avionics equipment for airplanes that fly in extreme conditions, such as those in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It goes without saying that Iowa has the finest workforce in the country and I'm glad that these quality, high-skill jobs are located here in Iowa's First District," Braley said. "For years, Iowa workers have played a critical role in defending America's interests. I saw firsthand today and in my recent trip to Iraq how the work of the men and women at First District facilities like Rockwell Collins and the Rock Island Arsenal is essential to ensuring our troops stay safe and well-equipped."

In December, Braley traveled to Iraq to meet with Iowa soldiers and personnel from the Rock Island Arsenal, who play a critical role in the up-arming and logistical deployment of *Mine Resistant Ambush Protected*

(  
*MRAP*

) Armored Vehicles

. While in Iraq, Braley recorded daily video diaries about the troops he met and the experiences he had, such as driving an MRAP.

The videos are available for viewing [here](#) .